

He is honored by a graduate assistant scholarship fund that has been established in his name at A&M. While he is looking forward to slowing down a bit, his remaining on part-time status after his retirement will be welcomed by those who have come to depend on him.

"I have heard people introduce him as the dean of cotton," said Billy Tiller, who farms west of Littlefield. "I take my hat off to him for serving us for all of these years. What would we do without him?"

IN MEMORY OF HANNAH H. HAGIN

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to a dear friend and constituent, Hannah H. Hagin, who passed away in Cincinnati on August 30, 2004.

There are special people in our lives, and Hannah was one of them. It is especially hard to lose them. She brought love, laughter, and happiness to everyone she met. She was funny and modest and giving. Hannah had an enormous number of devoted friends who adored her. People loved her because her kind of compassion, generosity and dignity is rare.

Hannah's real legacy is her wonderful and accomplished family. She took tremendous pride in them, and she has a special place in each one of their hearts. This is true of her husband of nearly fifty years, Joe; her two sons, Joe and Hunt; her daughter-in-law, Lauren; and her twin granddaughters, Lily and Kate. Hannah was a very proud grandmother, and loved nothing more than spending time with Lily and Kate.

Hannah grew up in Lexington, Kentucky, where she met Joe, whom she married during their junior year of high school. She later attended the University of Kentucky, where she majored in history.

Hannah was also active with gardening, knitting and needlepoint. She was a member of the Indian Hill Garden Club.

All of us in Cincinnati who knew Hannah are grateful to have had her in our lives. She made all of us better human beings.

JOE SERNA, JR.

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, shortly following what would have been former Sacramento Mayor Joe Serna's 65th Birthday, to join with his friends and family in helping to honor Joe's lifelong commitment to bettering the lives of his fellow citizens through the dedication of the Joe Serna Jr. Amphitheater at Delta College.

The great labor leader, Cesar Chavez, once said, "You knock on twenty doors or so, and twenty guys tell you . . . that they haven't got time. But maybe at the fortieth or sixtieth house you find the one guy who is all you need."

Joe was one of those remarkable men Cesar Chavez was looking for. He was a

much rarer breed than one in forty or one in sixty. Joe was, at the very least, one in a million.

He answered this call to service and action at an early age, losing his job at a manufacturing facility by endorsing a strike. He continued this fight on behalf of his fellow man for the remainder of his life. He was often called upon to lend assistance to his mentor, Cesar Chavez, and did not once turn down such a request.

His devotion to others was remarkable and unrelenting; whether as a worker in a trailer factory, as a labor leader, as a volunteer in the Peace Corps, as the civic leader of California's capital city, or as a husband, father and grandfather.

It is fitting that Delta College is naming a building for him. Once Joe had decided to answer Chavez's call and take the path of self-sacrifice and dedication to his community, Delta College was the first place he turned to hone the skills that would allow him to be the most effective advocate he could be.

We can only hope that future generations passing through the campus will have some measure of the integrity and dedication to his fellow man as Joe Serna Jr. displayed his entire life. We are all the better for his efforts and it is my honor to recognize and pay tribute once again to this fine American.

TRIBUTE TO THE REVEREND JESSE LANGSTON BOYD, JR.

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the exceptional accomplishments and extraordinary life of the Reverend Jesse Langston Boyd. This remarkable gentleman merits both our recognition and esteem as his impressive record of leadership and his invaluable service has done much to improve the lives of our people.

Reverend Boyd's standing within our community is rivaled by few others. He was a dynamic preacher whose counsel was infused with a spiritual fire that moved all of us to do what was right. He lived his life on the front lines of progress and proved to be a powerful champion of economic and social justice. His indomitable spirit carried him through many of life's challenges and molded a life of genuine accomplishment.

Jesse Boyd began his life in St. Louis, Missouri and settled in Los Angeles during the height of the civil rights movement. He joined the Reverend Jesse Jackson's Operation Breadbasket and organized the city's Operation PUSH. In the early 1970's, he spent two years as a missionary in Zambia building schools and houses. He later studied at the Center for the Study of Religions in Jerusalem and earned a degree in divinity from Harvard University.

Reverend Boyd came to our community in 1978 and was pastor of Shorter African Methodist Episcopal Church for over twenty-six years. As a spiritual leader, he advanced the social and educational development of our youth and burnished a reputation as a powerful advocate for civil liberties, inclusion and expanding opportunities for all people. Under

Reverend Boyd's leadership, Shorter A.M.E. became a beacon of hope and remains a positive force in the spiritual and civic life of our community.

He served as President of the Black Ministerial Alliance and in the mid-1980's, he helped create People Against Racism at Coors after William Coors, board chairman, was quoted in the Rocky Mountain News as saying that blacks lacked "intellectual capacity." The newspaper later retracted the story and a suit filed by Coors against the newspaper was also retracted. His civic accomplishments included building a fifty-unit housing development and establishing a park near Shorter A.M.E. Church.

Reverend Boyd was no stranger to political and community activism. He served as director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and chaired the boards of directors of Denver Metro PUSH and the Rainbow Coalition. Former Governor Roy Romer appointed him to the Colorado Wildlife Commission and he co-chaired the state campaigns for the Reverend Jesse Jackson, Gary Hart and Michael Dukakis.

It comes as no surprise that the Muscular Dystrophy Association honored Reverend Boyd with the 2004 Personal Achievement Award for his extensive religious, social and political contributions. Recently, Mayor John Hickenlooper proclaimed June 24th, 2004, as "The Reverend Jesse Langston Boyd Day."

We are indeed grateful for the life of Reverend Boyd and for his inestimable contribution to the spiritual life of our community and to the causes that elevate the human condition. He was a fervent defender of the civil liberties which have deep roots in our republic and we are all diminished by the passing of the remarkable gentleman. His contemporaries, including the Reverend James Peters, the Reverend Paul Martin and the Reverend Gil Caldwell recently noted that Reverend Boyd "was a spiritual giant in our community" who "helped us blaze the trail" and "dared challenge America to become a land 'with liberty and justice for all'." I would simply add that I believe Reverend Boyd's message to us would be that we must be ever vigilant and continue to affirm the values of equality, inclusion and tolerance—the values which define us as Americans. Please join me in paying tribute to the life of Reverend Jesse Langston Boyd, a distinguished spiritual and civic leader. His service, accomplishments and leadership command our respect and serve to build a better future for all Americans.

REGARDING PRESENTATION OF THE MILITIA AWARD TO DEBRA WADA

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, as we return to session following a productive August among the people we represent, it is worth remembering that for the most part, the staff of the House has been here and working through the month.

I believe we do not recognize often enough those dedicated public servants, who get lumped into that antiseptic word "staff."